

on wild fig (A. Busck); Havana, Cuba (S. Fernandez); Cayamas, Cuba, 28 May, 10 June, in house (E. A. Schwarz); Baracoa, Cuba, Sept., 1901 (A. Busck); Kingston, Jamaica, 11-9-07 (M. Grabham); St. Domingo, 8 June, 1905 (A. Busck); Ceara Brazil (F. D. de Rocha); S. Paulo, Brazil, bred from peaches (R. von Ihering); Buenos Ayres, Argentina.

THE VELUTINOUS SPECIES OF THE GENUS CHRYSOPILUS.

By CHARLES W. JOHNSON.

Among the species of the genus *Chrysopilus* is a small group of velvety looking flies with dark smoky wings. These show an interesting combination of colors:—velvety black, with or without golden tomentum on the thorax and silvery white tufts of hairs on the abdomen, and comprise some of our most beautiful species of diptera of eastern and central North America. The group consists of four species, which can be readily defined by the following table:—

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| 1. Thorax entirely velvety black..... | 2 |
| Thorax covered with a dense golden tomentum..... | 3 |
| 2. Abdomen entirely velvety black..... | <i>velutinus</i> Loew. |
| Abdomen with two rows of tufts of white pile..... | <i>connexus</i> sp. nov. |
| 3. Abdomen entirely velvety black..... | <i>darisi</i> Johns. |
| Abdomen with two rows of transverse tufts of white or light yellow pile | <i>thoracicus</i> Fabr. |

Chrysopilus connexus sp. nov.

Male and Female. Front and face velvety black, antennæ, proboscis and palpi black, the latter and the inferior orbits with long black hairs. Thorax with velvety black tomentum, scutellum with long black hairs and a tuft of yellowish hairs in front of the halteres in the male, pleuræ brownish black. Abdomen velvety black with two rows of tufts of white hairs on the posterior margins of the first to fifth segments, very small on the fifth segment of the male and apparently wanting in the female, the other tufts are more conspicuous in the female than in the male, venter velvety black, coxæ and femora black, tibiæ and tarsi yellow. Halteres brown. Wings smoky with the veins broadly margined with brown. Length male, 11 mm., female, 12 mm.

North Carolina Holotype (male) and Allotype in the U. S. National Museum. Paratype in the author's collection. I am

indebted to Mr. Frederick Knab for the privilege of describing this species. The specimen figured in the insect book by L. O. Howard, pl. 16, fig. 23, is this species and not *C. velutinus*. It is marked "Fla." Specimens are in the collection of Mrs. Slosson from Hot Springs, N. C.

The distribution of two of the species is quite wide. *C. davisi* is known only from the type locality, Clayton, Georgia. *C. velutinus* Illinois (type locality), Kentucky (Osten Sacken), and St. Augustine, Fla. (C. W. Johnson). *C. thoracicus*, was described from "Carolina." I have no record south of Maryland and Virginia. It is common in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Connecticut and western and central Massachusetts. I have not seen it from the eastern part of the State, nor north of Massachusetts, although L. E. Hood (PSYCHE, July 1892, p. 283), recorded it from Mt. Lincoln, N. H. and Maine. F. L. Washburn records it from Minnesota, but intermediate records are very scarce. The writer found the larva of this species in a wet decayed log along Brandywine Creek, Chester County, Pa., Apr. 27; it pupated May 8 and the imago appeared May 30.

The original spelling of the generic name is *Chrysopilus* not *Chryopila* and the date 1826 not 1827.

In looking for records my attention was called to figure 75, in the Diptera of Minnesota (Tenth Ann. Rept., p. 84, 1905), by F. L. Washburn. The figure represents *Atherix variegata* Walk. and not *Leptis mystacea* female, the head would indicate a male.

U. S. POSTAL REGULATIONS CONCERNING THE MAILING OF INSECTS.

The following extract from a recent order of the Postmaster General will be of interest to entomologists.

"Queen bees and their attendant bees, when accompanied by a copy of a certificate of the current year from a State or Government apiary inspector to the effect that the apiary from which said queen bees are shipped is free from disease or by a copy of a statement by the bee-keeper made before a notary public or other officer having a seal that the honey used in making the candy used in the queen mailing cage has been diluted and boiled in a closed vessel; beneficial insects, when shipped by departments of entomology in agricultural colleges and persons holding official entomological positions; other live

insects, when addressed to the Bureau of Entomology of the United States Department of Agriculture, to departments of entomology in State agricultural colleges, and to persons holding official entomological positions, and dried insects and dried reptiles may be sent in the mails when so put up as to render it practically impossible that the package shall be broken in transit, or the persons handling the same be injured, or the mail bags or their contents soiled.

"Nursery stock, including field-grown florists' stock, trees, shrubs, plants, vines, cuttings, grafts, scions and buds (which may carry injurious insects) may be admitted to the mails only when accompanied by a certificate from a State or Government inspector to the effect that said nursery stock has been inspected and found free from injurious insects."

BOOK NOTICES.

Butterfly-hunting in Many Lands; Notes of a Field Naturalist. By George B. Longstaff. pp. 728, pls. 6 & A-J. Longmans, Green & Co., London, New York, etc. 1912. (\$7.00).

This extensive volume is an account of the travels of an entomologist who has visited a number of countries, mainly in the tropics, searching for butterflies. Among entomological books, it is probably unique in its scope, and although it does not aim at completeness of detail for any region, the connected form of presentation gives it a value to the collector or general entomologist which is not shared by any of the various, elaborately illustrated works on butterflies now extant. There are lists of butterflies taken in India, Ceylon, China, Japan, South Africa, Guiana, the Antilles, New Zealand and many other interesting places, but with them are many notes on their habits as well as observations on some of the more striking insects of other orders.

Still more interesting are the descriptions of these places as an entomologist views them from the standpoint of his own interests, which are naturally quite different from those of the ordinary globe trotter and again less prejudiced than those of the naturalist who deals with an isolated area.

In addition to the entertainingly written body of the book, there is a chapter of over 100 pages entitled "Bionomic Notes," dealing with the scents of butterflies heliotropism, attitudes, polymorphism, which is of considerable interest for the general zoologist.

Translations of a number of papers by Fritz Müller on the scent organs of Lepidoptera are given in an appendix, and the book is supplied with a good index.

C. T. BRUES.

Guide to the Insects of Connecticut, Prepared under the direction of W. E. Britton.

Part I. General Introduction pp. 38, pls. 5, by W. E. Britton.

Part II. The Euplexoptera and Orthoptera, pp. 43-169, Vols. 6-11, by B. J. Walden.

Published as Bull. 16, State Geol. & Nat. Hist. Survey, Connecticut, 1911.

These two papers form the first part of a synopsis of the insects of Connecticut which is being prepared under the direction of Dr. W. E. Britton, the State Ento-